

**Passaic River Contaminated Sediment  
Removal Project Community Involvement  
Plan (CIP)**

**NOVEMBER 2008**

**Part 1  
Project Summary and Community  
Profile**

# Draft Community Involvement Plan (CIP)



Photo By: Mike Peters / Montclair State University



# Draft Community Involvement Plan (CIP)

## Preface

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to release this Draft Community Involvement Plan (CIP) for the Passaic River Contaminated Sediment Removal Project, which is considered a “non time-critical removal” – a type of fast-paced cleanup action under federal Superfund law. EPA, in consultation with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), has determined that a non-time-critical removal action is appropriate to abate, prevent, minimize, stabilize, mitigate, or eliminate threats from site contaminants to human health and the environment. The removal project is considered “non-time critical” because, although there is a threat to human health and the environment, there is sufficient planning time available before the removal action must be initiated.

This CIP will guide the public involvement process during the removal project. It supplements the Community Involvement Plan for the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project / Newark Bay Study (June 2006), which was developed by the federal-state partner agencies for the broader cleanup and restoration activities throughout the lower Passaic River and its watershed. EPA is committed to active and open public involvement throughout the life of this project. This CIP provides a toolbox of options for keeping the public informed and for soliciting input.

Please contact David Kluesner with your comments, concerns, and questions regarding the CIP or the project, so that we may continue in a partnership of meaningful public participation, involvement, and dialogue. David can be reached at 212-637-3653 or via email at [kluesner.dave@epa.gov](mailto:kluesner.dave@epa.gov).

Terms in **bold** may be found in the glossary.

Minimum Public Involvement Requirements Required By Law For Both Phases of the Passaic River Contaminated Sediment Removal Project

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
<p>Compile an Administrative Record  <b>[Available at completion of the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA)]</b></p>	<p>The body of documents that “forms the basis” for the selection of a particular response at a site. For example, the Administrative Record for cleanup plan selection includes all documents that were “considered or relied upon” to select the remedy through the “Action Memo”.</p>
<p>Issue a Proposed Plan  <b>[At completion of the EE/CA]</b></p>	<p>Identifies EPA’s proposed cleanup method, outlines important information about the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) and provides a summary of the different alternative cleanup plans the agency reviewed.</p>
<p>Publish a Public Notice  <b>[Concurrent with release of EE/CA and Proposed Plan to public]</b></p>	<p>Upon completion of the EE/CA and Proposed Plan, publish a notice of the availability of the EE/CA and Proposed Plan, including a brief analysis of the Proposed Plan, in a major local newspaper of general circulation. The notice also must announce a comment period.</p>
<p>Hold a Comment Period on the Proposed Plan and EE/CA</p>	<p>Provide at least 30 days for the submission of written and oral comments on the Proposed Plan and supporting information located in the information repository, including the EE/CA. This comment period will be extended by 15 additional days upon timely request.</p>
<p>Hold a Public Meeting on the Proposed Plan</p>	<p>Provide an opportunity for a public meeting regarding the Proposed Plan, EE/CA and other supporting information to be held at or near the site during the comment period.</p>
<p>Prepare a Transcript of the Public Meeting</p>	<p>Have a court reporter prepare a meeting transcript [of the Public Meeting on the Proposed Plan] that is made available to the public.</p>
<p>Prepare a Responsiveness Summary  <b>[Included in the Action Memo selecting the removal plan]</b></p>	<p>A summary of oral and/or written public comments received by EPA during a comment period on key EPA documents, and EPA’s response to those comments.</p>
<p><b>Activities which are not required by law but will be used to the extent feasible and appropriate</b></p>	<p>See Section 2.4 “Community Involvement Tools &amp; Outreach Activities” for a description of <b>24 tools in addition to those listed above that EPA may use</b> to involve and inform communities on this project.</p>



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## 1.1 Overview

### Purpose of the Community Involvement Plan

This Community Involvement Plan (CIP) describes a range of suggested community involvement and outreach tools and activities that have been identified by EPA in consultation with the NJ DEP and key stakeholders. Not all of the tools and activities will necessarily be implemented. Rather, the tools and activities identified here will be implemented based on input from **stakeholders** and in consideration of a number of project management and community factors. This CIP does not attempt to prescribe where, how or when each tool and activity will be used. Specific information on the major project documents, decisions, and activities will be provided to the public through fact sheets, project Web sites, and electronic notices, to name a few ways.

**The CIP's purpose is to serve as a guide for EPA** in providing opportunities for public information and input regarding cleanup activities involved in both phases of the contaminated sediment removal project adjacent to the Diamond Alkali property in Newark, NJ. **It is also designed to assist the communities** and other stakeholders throughout the project areas to become meaningfully involved in and informed about the project.

This plan is based on community interviews conducted in October/November 2008, historical records, and the Community Involvement Plan for the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project and Newark Bay Study (June 2006).

## 1.2 Project Background

### Problems Being Addressed by this Project

Sediment coring data has shown that sediment in the lower Passaic River directly in front of the Diamond Alkali property in downtown Newark contain the most significant source of 2,3,7,8-tetrachloro-dibenzo-p-dioxin (2,3,7,8-TCDD) concentrations within the lower Passaic River study area. The highest concentrations of dioxin in the subsurface sediments are located at depth within the sediment. Although these high levels of dioxin are not currently bio-available, they are two orders of magnitude greater than surface sediment concentrations and, therefore, represent a significant threat to human health and the environment if mobilized into the water column. It has been estimated that the dioxin contamination within the removal project area represents nearly half of the dioxin in the lower eight miles of the Passaic River.

In June 2008 EPA secured an agreement with Occidental Chemical Corporation (Occidental) and Tierra Solutions, Inc. (Tierra) to remove 200,000 cubic yards of these

contaminated sediments. The Diamond Alkali site is a federal Superfund site on the National Priorities List. **The work is being performed in two phases as a non-time-critical removal action** under federal Superfund authority, requiring the preparation of an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA). Work will be performed by Tierra under EPA oversight. It will be conducted in concert with a comprehensive study assessing a broad 17-mile stretch of the Passaic River and the evaluation of an early action to further address contamination in the lower eight-mile stretch of the river. The extent of the 17-mile lower Passaic River study area is **shown on page 15**.

The objectives of the contaminated sediment removal project are:

- Remove a portion of the most concentrated inventory of dioxin, and other hazardous substances, to minimize the possibility of migration of contaminants due to extreme weather events
- Prevent, to the maximum extent practicable, the migration of resuspended sediment during removal operations through appropriate engineering controls, monitoring, etc.
- Prevent, to the maximum extent practicable, the potential for spillage or leakage of sediment and contaminants during transport to the disposal facility
- Restore habitat. (Restoration of the Phase 1 work area will be coordinated with the activities of the bordering Phase 2 work and may not occur until Phase 2 is completed.)

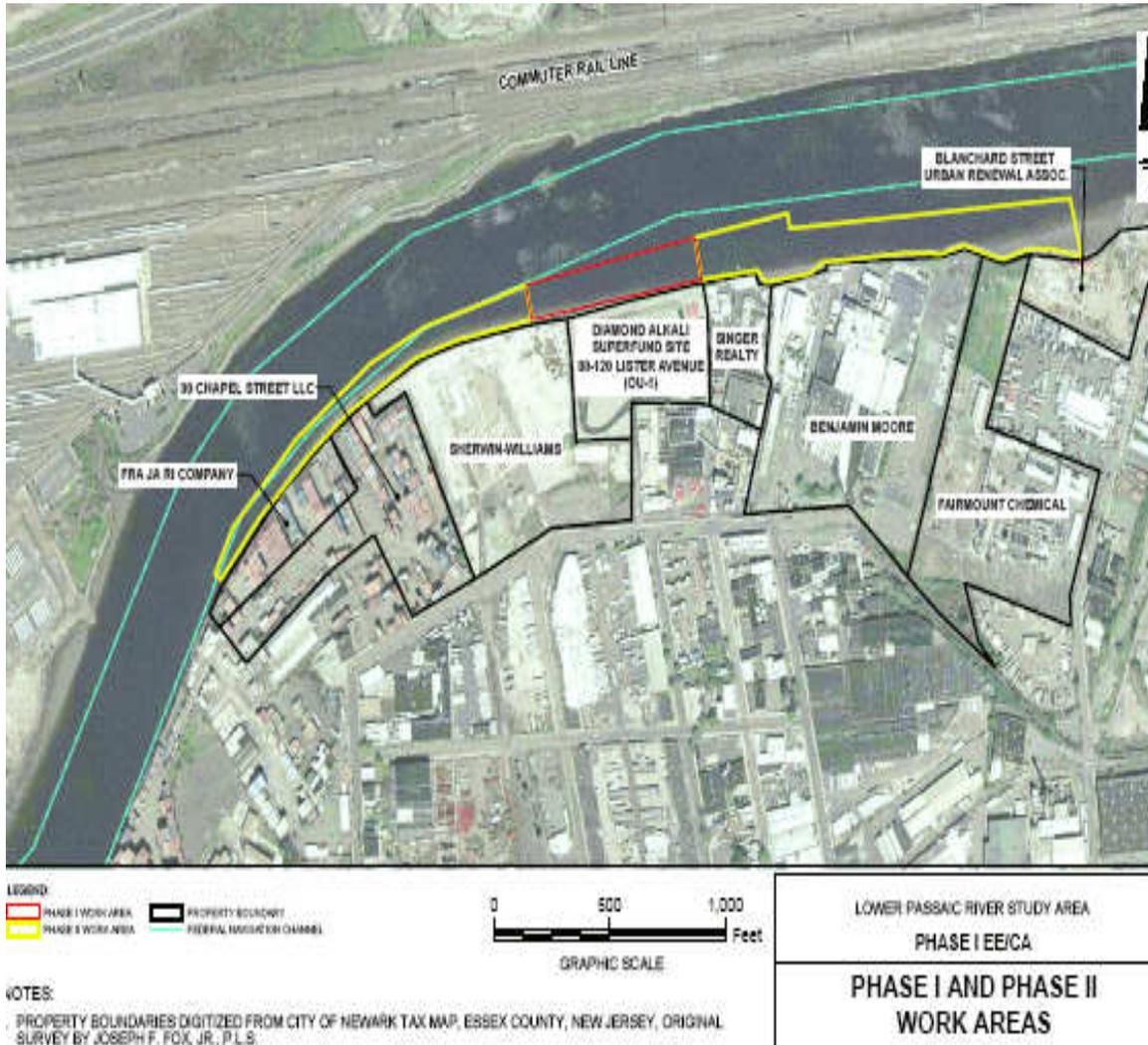
### Description of Project Areas

Contaminated sediment will be removed from an area of the Passaic River located approximately three and a half miles from the mouth of the Passaic adjacent to the Diamond Alkali Superfund Site at 80 and 120 Lister Avenue, Newark, NJ. Sediment removal will take place within a sheet pile enclosure and will target the upper-most 12 feet of sediment.

The Phase 1 work area is bounded to the north by the navigation channel and to the south by portions of the Sherwin-Williams property and the Diamond Alkali property. The shoreline along the Phase 1 work area consists of a bulkhead along the Sherwin-Williams property and a concrete floodwall that runs along the river frontage of the Diamond Alkali property.

The area surrounding the Phase 1 work area consists predominately of industrial facilities involved (either currently or historically) in various manufacturing activities, including but not limited to, paint and chemical manufacturing. A commuter rail corridor and rail yard is located along the opposite shore of the Passaic River, north of the work area. To support and protect these facilities, many portions of the river have been filled and the banks either bulkheaded or armored. Current riverfront property owners on the south bank of the river in the vicinity of the Phase 1 work area, from west to east, include: FRA JA RI Company, 99 Chapel Street LLC, Sherwin-Williams, Singer Realty, Benjamin Moore, Fairmont Chemical, and Blanchard

Street Urban Renewal Association. Residences are located within one-quarter of a mile from the Phase 1 work area.



The Phase 1 and Phase 2 work areas are shown above. Phase 1 work will be performed in the red box. Phase 2 work will be performed in the yellow boxes.

The Phase 1 work area contains shallow sub-tidal and intertidal mudflats with little or no associated vegetation. The majority of the shoreline is dominated by bulkheads, riprap, buildings, parking lots, roads, and other structures.

Commercial shipping traffic in the Passaic River is tracked by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). In 2006, there were a total of 1,726 vessel trips on the Passaic River. The majority of the vessels were shallow draft (less than 14 feet). Current commercial shipping traffic is expected to be similar to that of 2006. Recreational traffic is not tracked to the same extent as commercial traffic; therefore, data are not

readily available. However, given the small number of public boat launch locations and marinas in the vicinity of the Phase 1 work area, coupled with the fishing advisories currently in place for the lower Passaic River study area, recreational traffic, even if present, is expected to be minimal and unlikely to impact the Phase 1 work.

## 1.3 Project Activities

### Work Will be Performed in Two Phases

Work will be performed in two separate phases so that the most contaminated sediments could be removed and disposed off-site expeditiously. In both phases, sediment will be removed from the river within a sealed sheet pile enclosure that will be designed to minimize, to the maximum extent practicable, the migration of resuspended sediment from the work area. Phase 1 work will be performed “in the wet” which means that the river water level will be maintained within the sheet pile enclosure during excavation operations to ensure the integrity of the bulkhead and Diamond Alkali floodwall and to minimize air quality and ecological concerns associated with “in the dry” excavation. All aspects of the work, including monitoring requirements, engineering controls, and oversight will be spelled out in the work plans (see page 16 “**Technical Activities and Reports**”) to ensure the work is done safely, effectively and with minimal impacts to surrounding communities.

Phase 1 is scheduled to be completed in approximately two-and-a-half to three years. In the first phase, approximately 40,000 cubic yards of the most highly-contaminated sediments will be removed from an area of the river directly in front of the Diamond Alkali site. The Phase 1 work area lies mainly in a mud flat between the Diamond Alkali floodwall and the navigation channel on the south bank of the Passaic River. The maximum detected concentration of 5,300 parts per billion (ppb) of dioxin in the Harrison Reach of the lower Passaic is located within the Phase 1 work area. Material excavated here will be taken off-site, treated and then disposed of in one of a handful of facilities permitted to accept such waste. Following sediment removal, the Phase 1 work area will be restored by backfilling to at or near pre-removal surface elevations. Backfilling will be performed to maintain the stability of existing shoreline structures and to approximate existing groundwater flow conditions in the Phase 1 work area and vicinity.

Sediment processing (potentially performed on land nearby) may include solids separation and/or sediment dewatering. Dewatering is necessary to meet treatment or disposal facility requirements for no free standing water on the sediment (i.e., the sediment must pass the paint filter test to be accepted by the treatment or disposal facility). Objectives of the cleanup, as well as state and federal requirements, also require measures to prevent, to the extent practicable, the potential for spillage or leakage of sediments and contaminants during transport to the disposal facility, either by on-site processing or by transportation in water-tight containers.

Solids separation is needed to remove debris and other extremely large objects (e.g., cars, water craft, etc.) from the sediment so that the dewatering process option can function properly. Following solids separation, dewatering reduces the moisture of sediment to meet the off-site treatment and disposal facilities' criteria (i.e., paint filter test). Dewatering also produces a material more amenable to handling with general construction equipment. Treatment of collected water will be required prior to discharging it to the Passaic River. Water that will be treated includes that which is generated during sediment and debris processing and decontamination water.

**Phase 2, which will be conducted under a separate timeline and will be the subject of a separate engineering evaluation/cost analysis, will remove an additional 160,000 cy of sediment (having lower concentrations of dioxin) for disposal in a Confined Disposal Facility (CDF).** A CDF is an engineered structure designed to safely contain material dredged from waterways. They are one of the most widely used technologies for managing contaminated sediment. The size and design of each CDF is site-specific, depending on the location, the nature and potential amount of sediment and how it will be used after it is closed. The CDF structure can be designed to hold sediment indefinitely and could include liners, surface covers, and low permeability dike materials or cutoff walls to ensure its safety and longevity.

### Removal Plans Will be Selected through an Action Memo

While the June 2008 Administrative Order on Consent between EPA and Occidental/Tierra requires the removal of 200,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment using a sealed sheet pile enclosure, **how the contaminated sediment is removed and processed** is the subject of separate engineering evaluation/cost analyses (EE/CA) and **will be selected through an Action Memo issued by EPA**. Therefore, various sediment removal and processing alternatives are being, or will be, developed, evaluated and compared and a Proposed Plan developed upon completion of each EE/CA. The Proposed Plan describes the *preferred* removal alternative for the site. Changes to the preferred removal alternative or a change from the preferred removal alternative to another removal alternative may be made if public comments or additional data indicate that such a change will result in a more appropriate cleanup action. The final decision regarding the selected removal alternative will be made after EPA has taken into consideration all public comments. The final decision will be spelled out in an Action Memo.

The removal agreement, work plans, reports and more are available through the Passaic River project Web site at [www.ourpassaic.org](http://www.ourpassaic.org) and on EPA's Diamond Alkali Web site at [www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/npl/diamondalkali](http://www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/npl/diamondalkali)

- Administrative Order on Consent (June 23, 2008)
- Statement of Work (attached to the AOC)
- Phase 1 EE/CA Work Plan
- Phase 1 EE/CA

## Development of Early Action Alternatives Continues Through the Focused Feasibility Study (FFS)

EPA will continue its work on developing an “early action alternative,” which is EPA’s accelerated plan for addressing the sediments of the lower eight miles of the Passaic River. Development of early action alternatives will continue through a Focused Feasibility Study (FFS), concurrent with the contaminated sediment removal project. The FFS examines various options for sediment cleanup including dredging and capping or combinations thereof in the lower eight miles. EPA anticipates completing the Focused Feasibility Study and proposing a preferred cleanup alternative in 2009.

Cleanup plans developed through the FFS would be expected to take much longer to design and construct. Therefore, it is appropriate to address the Phase 1 sediments through a non-time-critical removal action. The conduct of the Phase 1 removal action is not expected to affect the outcome of the cleanup plan selection process of the FFS. The FFS will address risk that is current and much broader in scope, i.e. the surface sediments of the lower eight miles of the Passaic River.

## Comprehensive Study of Lower 17 Miles of the Passaic River is Underway

The sediments of the lower Passaic River are contaminated with a variety of **hazardous substances**, including **dioxin, PCBs, mercury, DDT, pesticides, and heavy metals**, among others. There are multiple causes, both chemical and non-chemical, some historical, some on-going today, of environmental degradation in the Passaic River. Sediment contamination in the Passaic River came from numerous parties and sources over the past 100 years, including direct discharges via spills, runoff, groundwater migration, and outfall pipes, as well as indirect discharges through sewers, to name a few. Population growth and development pressures have also contributed to the degradation of the Passaic River and Newark Bay.

The NJDEP has found that fish and blue claw crabs from the Passaic River are contaminated with harmful levels of dioxin and PCBs, and that eating fish and blue claw crabs from this region may cause cancer and harm brain development in unborn and young children. Advisories in this region for fish and blue claw crabs are **DO NOT CATCH! AND DO NOT EAT!**



A group of 73 parties potentially responsible for Passaic River contamination, known as the Cooperating Parties Group, is performing a broader, comprehensive study of the lower 17 miles of the Passaic River. That work continues uninterrupted by the contaminated sediment removal project being performed by Occidental and Tierra. The study involves a multi-year **remedial investigation (RI) / feasibility study (FS)** which is assessing the nature and extent of contamination and will develop cleanup plans to address those problems, as necessary.

Proposals for cleanup, as needed, will be evaluated and presented in a feasibility study and a **Proposed Plan** will be presented to the public for comment. Any such cleanup plan will ultimately be selected through a **Record of Decision (ROD)** following evaluation of public comments.

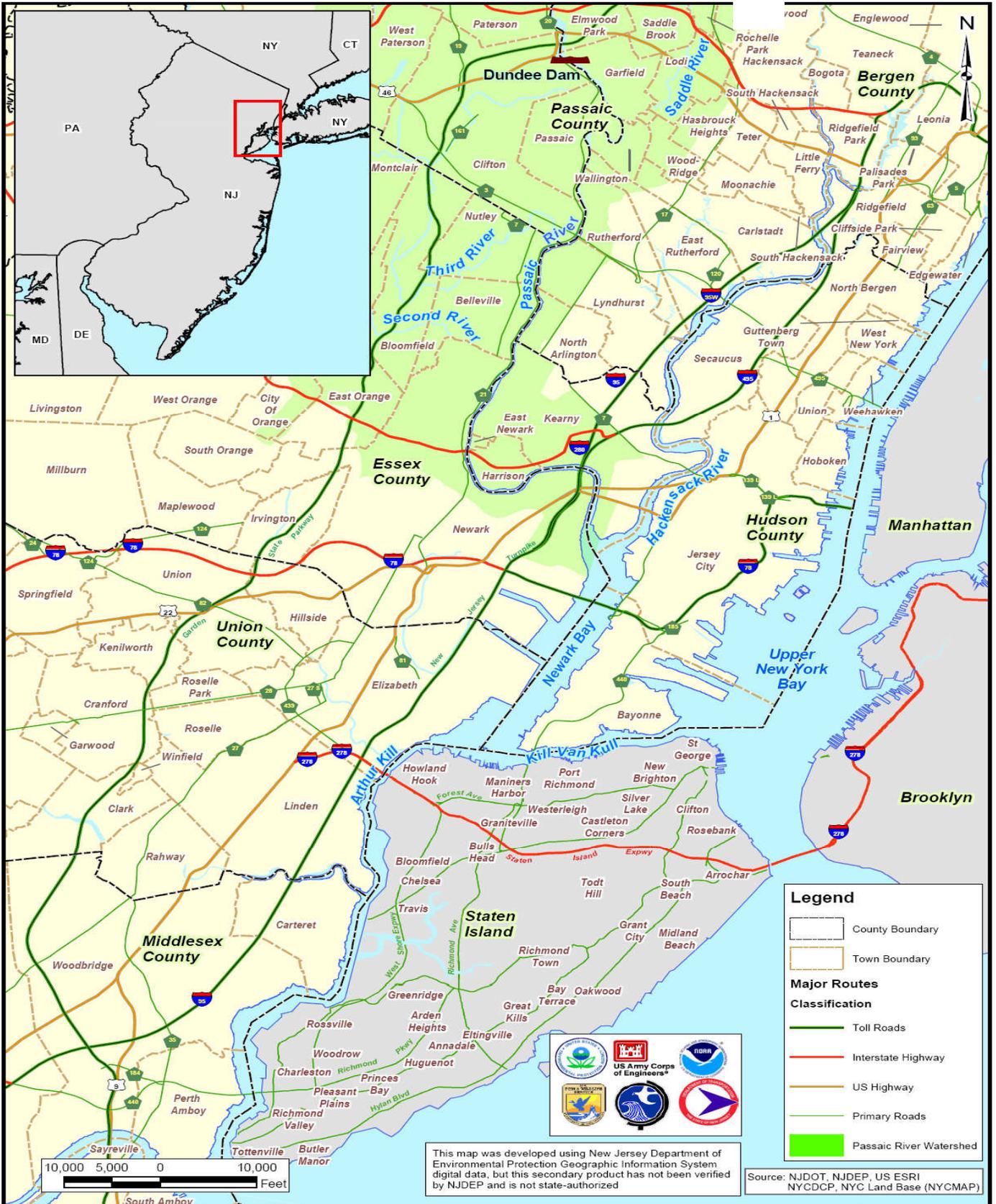
The community involvement plan guiding the FFS and RI/FS activities, as well as the restoration work of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, NJDEP, NOAA, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, is available at [www.ourpassaic.org](http://www.ourpassaic.org) under "Public Outreach Activities".



DATE	PROJECT HISTORY
1940s	Manufacturing facility located at 80 Lister Avenue, Newark, NJ begins producing DDT and phenoxy herbicides.
1951 – 69	Diamond Alkali Company (subsequently known as the Diamond Shamrock Chemicals Company) owns and operates a pesticides manufacturing facility at 80 Lister Avenue. In 1960, an explosion destroys several plant processes; also in 1960, production limited to herbicides, including those used in the formulation of the defoliant "Agent Orange". Diamond Alkali Company ceases operations in 1969.
1970 - 83	80 Lister Avenue goes through a series of new ownerships and production processes.
1982	NJDEP releases fishing advisories for reduced consumption of white perch and white catfish in the Passaic River. River abutting 80 Lister Avenue closed for commercial fishing of American eel and striped bass.
1983	NJDEP and EPA collect samples; high levels of dioxin detected in the Passaic River and at 80 Lister Avenue property. Diamond Alkali site proposed by EPA to the Superfund NPL. Fish advisories begin for the both Passaic River and Newark Bay.
1984	NJDEP issues Administrative Consent Order to Diamond Shamrock Chemicals Company to perform investigation of 80 Lister Avenue. Site finalized on the Superfund NPL. Site investigation of 80 Lister Avenue begins. NJDEP issues Administrative Consent Order to Diamond Shamrock Chemicals Company to perform cleanup of select dioxin-contaminated properties and to perform investigation of 120 Lister Ave.
1985	Investigation results released to public. Cleanup options for 80 and 120 Lister Avenue properties detailed in feasibility study.
1986	NJDEP presents cleanup options to public.
1987	EPA and NJDEP hold public meeting to discuss the Proposed Plan for cleanup. EPA selects interim cleanup plan (Record of Decision) for the 80 and 120 Lister Avenue portion of the Diamond Alkali Superfund site, requiring the containment of contaminated materials.
1988	Diamond Alkali Superfund site transferred from state lead under NJDEP to federal lead under EPA.
1990	Federal court approves Consent Decree among Occidental Chemical Corporation, as successor to Diamond Shamrock Chemicals Company, and Chemical Land Holdings, Inc. (now known as Tierra Solutions, Inc.) and EPA and NJDEP to implement the 1987 interim cleanup plan.
1993	EPA forms team to study lower six-mile stretch of the Passaic River.
1994	EPA posts trilingual fishing advisory signs along the Passaic River near the Diamond Alkali site. EPA and Occidental Chemical sign an Administrative Order on Consent to investigate the lower six-mile stretch of the Passaic. Demolition of buildings at 80 Lister Ave. is completed.
1995	Field work begins on the lower six-mile stretch of the Passaic River.
1996 – 99	EPA, at the request of the local community, explores the potential for implementing an alternative to the interim cleanup plan selected in 1987. Alternative plan not found. EPA reviews and approves design of 1987 interim cleanup plan.
2000	Interim cleanup begins at land portion of Diamond Alkali site, which included installation of a cap, slurry wall and flood wall around the properties and groundwater pumping and treatment.
2001	Interim cleanup completed at land portion of Diamond Alkali site.
2003	Six-mile study of Lower Passaic River expanded to include the extent of contamination in the lower 17-miles of the Passaic River.
2004	EPA enters into an Administrative Order on Consent with 31 PRPs to fund Superfund portion of the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project. EPA and Occidental Chemical enter into Administrative Order on Consent to conduct multi-year study of the Newark Bay area.
2005	12 additional PRPs added to the Administrative Order on Consent for the Superfund portion of the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project.
2006	EPA launches Focused Feasibility Study (FFS) to identify "early action" cleanup options in the lower 8 miles of the Passaic River.
2007	EPA signs agreement with 73 companies to take over the work necessary to complete the comprehensive contaminated sediment study of the lower 17 miles of the Passaic River (the Superfund portion of the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project). This group of PRPs is referred to as the Cooperating Parties Group.
June 2008	EPA signs an Administrative Order on Consent with Occidental Chemical Corporation and Tierra Solutions Inc. (Tierra) to remove 200,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment from the portion of the lower Passaic River that is right in front of the Diamond Alkali site in Newark.
October 2008	Tierra submits draft Phase 1 Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) to EPA for review.
November 2008	EPA submits Phase 1 EE/CA and Proposed Plan to the public for review and comment.

# Draft Community Involvement Plan

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Lower Passaic River Restoration Project/Newark Bay Study  
Community Involvement Plan

## PROJECT AREAS

FIGURE 4

JUNE 2006

Technical Activities & Reports	
Phase 1	Phase 1
Phase 1 Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) & Proposed Plan	<b>[November 2008]</b> 30-day public review and comment. Identifies the scope, goals, and objectives of the removal action. Includes a proposed schedule for completion of removal activities. Identifies removal action alternatives and evaluates and compares the alternatives for effectiveness, implementability, and cost.
Phase 1 Action Memorandum	<b>[January 2009]</b> Describes the selected removal plan and responds to public comments.
Removal Design Work Plan for Phase 1	<b>[early 2009]</b> Contains various removal project plans such as: Sampling and Analysis Plan for Off-Site Disposal of Dredged Material; Quality Assurance Plan; Health and Safety Plan; Geotechnical Investigation Plan; Sediment Assessment; Sediment Excavation Enclosure Plan; Sediment Excavation Plan; Post-Phase I/Pre-Phase 2 Condition Plan; Transportation Plan for Off-Site Disposal; Water Treatment Plan; Habitat Assessment/Restoration Studies
Phase 1 Design	<b>[performed throughout 2009]</b>
Phase 1 Removal Action Work Plan	Provides for the construction and implementation of the Phase I Removal Design Work Plan.
Phase 1 Removal	<b>[2010 – 2011] Phase 1 contaminated sediment removal and disposal work is performed.</b>
Phase 1 Final Report	<b>[60 days after completion of Phase 1 work]</b> Summarizes the actions taken to comply with the Administrative Order on Consent. Includes an estimate of total costs or a statement of actual costs incurred, a listing of quantities and types of materials removed off-Site or handled on-Site, a discussion of removal and disposal options considered for those materials, a listing of the ultimate destination(s) of those materials, a presentation of the analytical results of all sampling and analyses performed, and accompanying appendices containing all relevant documentation generated during the removal action.
Phase 2	Phase 2
Work Plan for Phase 2 Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA)	<b>[submitted to EPA 30 days after EPA approval of Removal Design Work Plan for Phase 1: early 2009]</b> Describes the process and tasks involved in preparation of the Phase 2 EE/CA.
Phase 2 EE/CA & Proposed Plan	<b>[30-day public review and comment.]</b> Identifies the scope, goals, and objectives of the removal action. Includes a proposed schedule for completion of removal activities. Identifies removal action alternatives and evaluates and compares the alternatives for effectiveness, implementability, and cost.
Phase 2 Action Memorandum	Describes the selected removal plan and responds to public comments.
Removal Design Work Plan for Phase 2	Contains various removal project plans such as: Health and Safety Plan; Geotechnical Investigation Plan (excavation site & CDF location); Sediment Assessment; Sediment Excavation Enclosure Plan; Sediment Excavation Plan; Materials Handling and Transportation Plan; Water Treatment Plan; Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) Enclosure & Cap Design; Long Term Monitoring Program; Post-Phase 2 Condition Plan; Habitat Assessment & Restoration Studies
Phase 2 Design	Design of Phase 2 contaminated sediment removal and disposal.
Phase 2 Removal Action Work Plan	Provides for the construction and implementation of the Phase 2 Removal Design Work Plan.
Phase 2 Removal	<b>Phase 2 contaminated sediment removal work is performed.</b>
Phase 2 Final Report	<b>[60 days after completion of Phase 2 work]</b> Summarizes the actions taken to comply with the Administrative Order on Consent. Includes an estimate of total costs or a statement of actual costs incurred, a listing of quantities and types of materials removed off-Site or handled on-Site, a discussion of removal and disposal options considered for those materials, a listing of the ultimate destination(s) of those materials, a presentation of the analytical results of all sampling and analyses performed, and accompanying appendices containing all relevant documentation generated during the removal action.

## 1.4 Community Profile

The principal “community” impacted by the removal project is the City of Newark, specifically the Ironbound section of Newark. However, the community also includes the areas around Newark Bay. Phase 2 contaminated sediment will be disposed of in a confined disposal facility which is expected to be located somewhere within Newark Bay.

The Ironbound community is one of Newark’s most highly industrialized and densely populated areas. Approximately two-thirds of its 50,000 inhabitants are foreign born and many speak Spanish and Portuguese. Covering approximately four square miles, it is often referred to as the East Ward. Portuguese roots run deep in the community.

### Immigrant and Minority Populations

Many of the Ironbound’s residents speak Portuguese as a first language; and have a tradition of fishing for both sport and sustenance. Many immigrant groups from Spanish-speaking countries fish from local waters as part of their cultural legacy and are unaware or distrustful of warnings about the dangers of eating locally caught fish.

### Populations in Poverty

According to the U.S. Census, many residents in the removal project areas live below the poverty line. The City of Newark has the third highest unemployment rate among America’s large urban centers. Approximately 28 percent of Newark’s overall population lives in poverty and 45 percent of families with children live below or near the poverty line. Many of these populations encompass people in the black and Hispanic communities, including recent immigrants from South and Central America, the Caribbean, and Africa. Because many of these populations have a history and tradition of fishing for sustenance, they are populations of concern since fishing or shell fishing in the waters of the Passaic River and Newark Bay presents a significant health hazard.

### Reaching the Entire Community

There are significant environmental justice issues in the project areas. Industry is omnipresent in the Ironbound. An incinerator, abandoned facilities and Brownfield properties dot the landscape. The area suffers among the highest rates of asthma in the U.S. And there’s a severe lack of open space/green space for its residents to enjoy. These issues underscore the need to work with community-based and faith-based organizations to reach out to all populations, and to communicate project information to populations that lack an adequate working knowledge of English.

Homeless populations are living in several places along the Passaic River and around Newark Bay. Some of the homeless fish for sustenance. Areas where homeless populations congregate include: "Container City" along the Passaic in Newark, which walls off a Newark Housing Project (Terrell Homes), and an area near Minish Park in Newark.

	<h1>Part 2</h1> <h2>Action Plan: Community Involvement Tools and Activities</h2>	

### 2.1 History of Community Involvement

#### Public Involvement at the Diamond Alkali Site

The 1983 discovery of dioxin at the 80 Lister Avenue property in Newark stimulated active community involvement at what would become the Diamond Alkali Superfund site, especially among residents of the Ironbound section of Newark.

In 1987, EPA selected an interim remedy for the 80 and 120 Lister Avenue properties that included (1) construction of a slurry wall and flood wall around the properties; (2) installation of a cap over the properties; and (3) pumping and treating of groundwater to reduce the migration of contaminated groundwater. Prior to approving the design plans, EPA, at the request of the local community, explored the potential for implementing an alternative to the interim remedy selected in 1987. Innovative technologies as well as on and off-site thermal treatment were considered, but due to the nature of the contaminated materials, new technologies were judged to be inappropriate and no off-site option was available. While the alternative of on-site incineration was deemed technically feasible, the local community was strongly opposed to on-site incineration. Therefore, EPA approved the design plans for the interim remedy. Construction of the remedy began in April 2000 and was completed in December 2001.



A number of community involvement plans were developed for the site, including an initial CIP produced by NJ DEP in 1987; and three (1992, 1994 and 2006) prepared by EPA. The Lower Passaic River Restoration Project & Newark Bay Study Community Involvement Plan was finalized in June 2006 and was used in the development of this plan.

In September 1994, an EPA **Technical Assistance Grant (TAG)** was awarded to the Ironbound Community Corporation (ICC) to assist the community in the interpretation of technical documents generated by the project. This TAG was closed out following the completion of the technical adviser's work, which focused primarily on the design and implementation of the interim remedy for the Diamond Alkali Superfund site. In 2003, concurrent with the formation of the partnership for the Lower Passaic River Restoration Project, EPA received an application for a TAG from the Passaic River Coalition (PRC). In 2004, EPA awarded a TAG to PRC in the amount of \$50,000. In 2008 PRC submitted an application requesting an additional \$50,000 in technical assistance funding under this grant as well as an extension of the project period through 2011. The TAG is being used by PRC's technical adviser to review information, advise municipalities, produce newsletters and submit comments on technical reports related to the RI/FS, Focused Feasibility Study and the contaminated sediment removal project.

## 2.2 Key Community Concerns

### Overview of the Community Interview Process

Community interviews were conducted by EPA in October/November 2008. Input received during those interviews was carefully considered in developing this CIP. Appendix 11 contains a list of community interview questions. The following subsections summarize the responses to those questions.

### Community Issues & Questions

The community, while generally supportive of the project, expressed concern about how the removal, treatment, processing and storage of sediments nearby could impact the local residents. The community wants full disclosure on, and input on plans which address, potential impacts to the local community, such as fugitive dust, odors, emissions from construction equipment, etc. Slightly west of the site is Terrell Homes, a 350 unit public housing project. The community wants a better understanding of:

- How will the contaminated sediment be removed?
- Are their airborne risks associated with this?
- Where will the contaminated sediment be transported to?

- How will it be transported? Trucks? Barges? Transported on the Harrison side?
- What are the risks and protections for the community during this process?
- Will the contaminated sediment be treated at a nearby site? If yes, where will that be?
- What is the treatment process?
- What are the risks and protections for the community during this process?
- What is a Confined Disposal Facility (CDF)? How is it constructed? Where will it be located?

Some in the community expressed a strong preference for treatment of contaminated sediment on land for beneficial uses in the near future.

Some expressed reservations over placement of highly contaminated sediments in Confined Disposal Facilities (CDFs) in water.

### **Other Questions and Comments:**

Questions remain among community members over how the removal project impacts or will be integrated with the more comprehensive 17-mile study and restoration efforts as well as the early action initiative.

Some felt that the selection of a CDF has not been well-explained to the public. In other words, why does EPA believe that a CDF is necessary?

Some questioned if there is a possibility for local job creation as part of the clean-up project.

Concerns were expressed over the potential impacts on river use during clean-up operations.

Concerns were expressed over the impacts of potential river flooding on the coffer dam (sheet pile enclosure) and if the dredging enclosure could actually exacerbate flooding.

There are questions over why and how the removal dredge limits (vertical and horizontal) were established.

There are questions over how the EE/CA can identify alternatives when it appears EPA has already decided to excavate using sheet piling. What will the public comment on?

There are concerns that the removal project will delay implementation of early action cleanup of the lower 8 or 17 miles of the Passaic River, or will serve as a substitute for a broader cleanup of the river.

There are concerns about overload on EPA regional staff, e.g., taking on additional responsibilities with the removal project.

There are concerns about losing time as we transition to a new administration and new staff at the EPA.

Concerns exist over the potential location of a CDF whether it will have any affect on the surrounding communities, and if the cleanup will interfere with the recreational use of the river.

There is some confusion over how the contaminated sediment removal project relates to the Superfund study/restoration projects being implemented by the Army Corps and the work being carried out by the Cooperative Parties Group.

Questions remain as to how EPA will handle the cleanup area in relation to the alternatives in the dredging/capping alternatives outlined in the focused feasibility study.

Community members expressed a desire for good summaries that informed lay-people can process and understand.

Some expressed a desire that EPA staff and its consultants involved in the early action and comprehensive study maintain close involvement in the removal project to ensure consistency, identify any issues and enhance coordination with the larger effort.

Some expressed an expectation/desire for EPA to be open-minded to new technologies and opportunities regarding dredged material management options to further the development of the regional decontamination technology programs.

Some community members requested that EPA clearly the removal cleanup to risk management goals to reinforce that these actions are meaningful and will truly improve the environment.

Community members are very interested in the numerous steps and handling of the Phase 1 material; meeting the timeframes necessary (but not yet specified) to review, revise and approve all of the separate plans that will be part of the Phase 1 Removal Design Work Plan within the 30 month timeframe; and including the local community early and substantively so that they feel part of the process and impacts are minimized to the greatest degree possible.

Some stated that the process moving forward should be much more transparent than the process that led to the removal agreement with Tierra.

### How the Community Wants to be Informed & Provide Input

The community feels that public meetings and meetings of stakeholder groups, such as the Ironbound Community Corporation Steering Committee, should be held. It is felt that the most dynamic exchange takes place in face to face meetings where those most active in the community can have their concerns addressed.

Frequent e-mails were cited as being useful.

Community members want fact sheets in Spanish, and in Portuguese, as appropriate. It was suggested that EPA work with local organizations to help determine which topics/documents should be translated and to help disseminate the materials.

It was requested that signage be posted along the waterfront explaining the project. New Jersey law requires signage. Due to the nature and scope of this project, EPA and the potentially responsible parties may consider signage that contains information beyond that required.

The community wants EPA to ensure that local repositories for the documents are up-to-date.

Some commented that the existing listserv is helpful and perhaps can be utilized even more.

New Jersey commented that cleanup must meet the requirements of "Notification and Public Outreach" New Jersey A.C. 7:26E-1.4. Targeted meetings should be held with the local community, perhaps coordinated through a credible community organization such as the Ironbound Community Corporation, or community advisory board made up of a representative from the mayor's office, the public health agency, neighborhood organizations, and environmental groups. NJ DEP rules that address site remediation public notification and outreach activities went into effect September 2008. These rules require specific public notification and outreach activity by the "party responsible for conducting the remediation". The rules should be reviewed by the parties conducting the remediation to ensure they are in compliance.

Fact sheets, Web sites, public meetings, and newspaper articles were cited as effective tools for sharing information and providing input.

Project team meetings were identified as being useful but it was felt by some that they don't seem to reach a broad audience. Therefore, EPA should use email/Web and newspapers often.

Some felt that a brief public service message for radio and television would be useful.

EPA should also reach out via presentations to local public schools about the dioxin contamination in the region and implications related to recreation and public health.

### What the Community Wants Input On

- Phase 1 Removal Proposed Plan
- Health and safety plans
- Sediment excavation plans
- Transportation plans
- Water treatment plans
- Habitat restoration studies and plans
- Phase 1 removal design and final report
  
- Phase 2 work plans
- Phase 2 Removal Proposed Plan
- Phase 2 removal design
- Phase 2 Removal Final Report
- Public Participation Plans

For Phase 1, the most important plans for the public to review and comment on are the health and safety plan (as it pertains to potential impacts to local communities), sediment excavation and transportation plans. For Phase 2, in addition to the plans stated for Phase 1, the public wants to comment on the materials handling and transportation plans, confined disposal facility (CDF) enclosure and cap design, and the CDF long-term monitoring program.

Some community members expressed interest in providing input into issues related to impacts to natural resources, specifically related to natural resource restoration plans and dredged materials disposal locations within the region.

Many felt that the Phase 1 & 2 EE/CA and Phase 1 & 2 Proposed Plan will be the most critical for the public to comment on. Having the public understand what is to be done in the earliest stage will be critical to gain support and ensure stakeholders are comfortable as EPA moves forward.

Some community members wanted major documents, whether draft or final, available to the public promptly upon request, and its sister agency documents should also be available upon request.

### Who EPA Should Work With

The Ironbound Community Corporation (ICC) is a neighborhood organization that has been an active participant in the EPA early action cleanup plan process and in the planning for a Waterfront Park. ICC expressed interest in being contacted often

and involved in the removal project through a steering committee made up of local residents and business people.

Community members felt that EPA should work with residents (specifically those in Terrell Homes) and business owners in municipalities adjacent to the lower Passaic River, local and federal elected officials, and nonprofits.

Public entities, such as the City of Newark and the County Executive, were identified as being critical to include, and that they can determine who should participate from their City/County perspective.

Police departments, neighborhood organizations and environmental groups should be involved, according to stakeholders. Police and emergency responders/homeland security should be briefed on what is happening and what to do in case of an emergency.

Trinity Church and Super Neighborhoods were identified as important players.

As the project moves into Phase 2 the universe of “who to work with” should be expanded to include communities adjacent to the Passaic River and Newark Bay where cleanup activities or placement in a CDF will be happening, (i.e. Kearny, Jersey City, Bayonne)

It was suggested that EPA work with Future City, the City of Newark Sustainability Officer, Ironbound Super Neighborhood Organization, and the Newark Conservancy.

Organizations that were identified by stakeholders for EPA to work with include the Lower Passaic Watershed Alliance, Natural Resource Defense Council, Nereid Boat Club, Passaic River Rowing Association, NY/NJ Baykeeper, Passaic River Coalition, and Passaic River Boat Club.

### Technical Assistance

The community expressed strong interest in technical assistance support for this removal project. Many felt that the community is not aware of Passaic River Coalition’s Technical Assistance Grant, nor how to seek their assistance. Some community members were not sure what reports or issues that the Passaic River Coalition has generated comments on to-date.

Some felt that the EPA needs to play a more active role in the TAG implementation.

It was recommended that initial presentations be given that break down complex scientific information. Clearly there are different levels of preparedness in the community to deal with highly specialized scientific information.

Passaic River Coalition, the recipient of the Technical Assistance Grant for the Diamond Alkali site, suggested that EPA and its partner agencies should share inquiries with them to know who to reach out to in the form of offering technical assistance.

### Who the Community Wants to Get Project Information From

EPA and NJDEP are the community's preferred source of information about the contaminated sediment removal project. A general sentiment exists that for the earlier phases of the project, in which the community will be getting a sense of the overall scope of the project, it would be more useful coming from public entities.

Some felt that at some point it might be good for Tierra to participate as well, yet they wanted it recognized that there is some distrust of Tierra and anger in the community about the extent to which residents have suffered from high concentrations of dioxin.

Some sentiment was expressed that EPA technical staff and management provide the community with information, not just through their consultants.

Some felt that elected officials generally do not have the details and may not be the best source.

Community members felt that the media is a great mechanism to reach the public; however, the information provided MUST be complete and accurate. It is also important that all information from multiple sources should be consistent in order to improve trust, credibility and support.

Many community members felt that non-government organizations (i.e., Ironbound Community Corporation, Passaic River Coalition, Natural Resources Defense Council, NY/NJ Baykeeper, Hackensack Riverkeeper) have the most credibility, and that EPA should enlist them in the outreach. Universities also have credibility and it would be helpful to have a review panel of local academics that can vet things.

### How Often the Community Wants to Be Updated

Some want community meetings on a bi-monthly basis.

Project team meetings on a monthly to quarterly basis depending on the on-going or upcoming project activities.

Weekly e-mail updates would be helpful.

### Locations for Public Meetings

The Ironbound community is the ideal location for updating the community on the removal project. Hawkins Street School is frequently used for community meetings. The school is centrally located within the lower East Ferry Street neighborhood and close to the Diamond Alkali site.

Meetings should be held in New Jersey. Night meetings were suggested. NYC is too difficult for most to attend.

A location that is reachable via public transportation nearby the site. North Jersey Transportation Planning Agency (One Newark Center) is always a great location.

Community events could be held at:

- the building in Riverbank Park in Newark
- East Side High School is a good venue for local residents
- Newark City Hall
- Trinity Church (Ironbound)

## 2.3 Communication Goals

EPA is committed to involving the public throughout the contaminated sediment removal project. We will endeavor to use the most appropriate communication methods and tools for each phase of the project because one size does not fit all. We will endeavor to use clear, consistent language when communicating with the public. Technical aspects and decision-making processes will be explained using everyday language. We will endeavor to respond to community questions and concerns by soliciting feedback from the audiences throughout the community involvement and outreach process. Every effort will be made to respond in a timely manner. We will endeavor to provide the public with accurate information. When new information is available, it will be relayed through the stakeholder network.

## 2.4 Community Involvement Tools and Outreach Activities

Outreach efforts will place a strong emphasis on collaborating with a network of information disseminating partners, including community groups, environmental organizations, local government, and other local and regional stakeholder groups that are interested in sharing project information with their constituents.

**Involvement and Input**

**Public Comment Period**

**Description:** This is a formal opportunity for community members to review and comment on various agency documents or actions. EPA will provide 30 days for the submission of written and oral comments on both the Phase 1 and Phase 2 engineering evaluation/cost analysis (EE/CA) reports and Proposed Plans for the contaminated sediment removal project. This comment period will be extended by 15 additional days upon timely request. A separate comment period will be held on each EE/CA.

**Goal:** Provides an opportunity for the public to provide formal input in the decision-making process and for the public to review EPA’s responses to comments in the Responsiveness Summary section of the decision document (Action Memorandum).

**Method:** EPA will announce the comment periods through a public notice in a local newspaper and listserv notification, fact sheet and press release to ensure that the public has sufficient opportunity to understand what is being presented, when comments will be accepted, how long the comment period will be open, and how to submit comments.

**Examples of Involvement, Input, and Outreach Tools**

	INVOLVEMENT & INPUT	OUTREACH	INVOLVEMENT, INPUT, & OUTREACH
<b>PURPOSE</b>	To encourage public participation in the project and solicit feedback	To share information with the public and promote awareness and education	To encourage public participation, solicit feedback, share information, and promote awareness and education
<b>EXAMPLES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Public comment period</li> <li>▪ Public input</li> <li>▪ Technical Assistance Grant (TAG)</li> <li>▪ Technical Assistance Support Contract (TASC)</li> <li>▪ Toll-free hotline</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fact sheets</li> <li>▪ Field notifications</li> <li>▪ Information repositories</li> <li>▪ Listserv Notices</li> <li>▪ Maps and visual aids</li> <li>▪ Media notification / media events</li> <li>▪ Public notices</li> <li>▪ Public service announcements (PSAs)</li> <li>▪ Project site visits / tours</li> <li>▪ Project Web sites</li> <li>▪ School / educational outreach</li> <li>▪ Speakers' bureau</li> <li>▪ Video production</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Community Advisory Group (CAG)</li> <li>▪ Community events</li> <li>▪ Coordination with local government and other agencies</li> <li>▪ Email</li> <li>▪ Environmental justice activities</li> <li>▪ Public availability sessions &amp; forums</li> <li>▪ Public meetings</li> <li>▪ Stakeholder group interaction</li> <li>▪ Workshops / seminars / symposia</li> </ul>



### Public Input

**Description:** Written communications and informal discussions with agency staff are just some ways the public and the partner agencies can communicate about and provide input on the project.

**Goal:** EPA will strive to maximize the number of technical reports available to the public. To the extent possible, EPA will consult with the local community during the drafting process of the various documents. EPA's goal will be to continuously seek and consider public input on the various project reports, work plans and key decisions through use of a variety of tools in this CIP.

**Method:** Informal comments can be offered at any time, such as during availability sessions, open houses, community visits, and workshops. See Appendix 3 for Removal Project Contacts. Written comments may be submitted via mail or email.

### Technical Assistance Grant (TAG)

**Description:** A TAG provides money to community groups so they can pay for technical advisors to interpret and explain technical reports, site conditions, and EPA's proposed cleanup proposals and decisions at Superfund sites. As specified in Superfund Section 117(e), there can be only one TAG for each Superfund site.

In 2004 EPA awarded a TAG to the Passaic River Coalition (PRC) in the amount of \$50,000. In 2008 PRC applied for an additional \$50,000 and an extension of the project and budget period. This TAG is being used by PRC's technical adviser to:

- review technical reports and site investigation data on the Diamond Alkali site
- submit technical comments to EPA on various project reports
- advise municipalities on the project, site contamination and cleanup plan development
- produce newsletters
- other activities

These reports will address the re-evaluation of the interim remedy for the land portion of the Diamond Alkali Superfund site (conducted every two years), the assessment of site contaminants, the development of the RI/FS for the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay, the development of the Focused Feasibility Study and early action cleanup alternatives and the contaminated sediment removal project.

**Goal:** The goal of a TAG is to help improve a community's understanding of the environmental conditions and cleanup activities at Superfund sites and to address community concerns about the cleanup of the Diamond Alkali site.

**Method:** The TAG recipient, PRC, is responsible for providing technical assistance regarding the entire Diamond Alkali Superfund site, which includes the 17-mile tidal reach of the Lower Passaic River, as well as Newark Bay. While no new TAG money is available to other groups, EPA will monitor the TAG work and will assist PRC in identi-

fyng as broad a cross-section of communities in the project areas to benefit from assistance under this TAG as is feasible. EPA will increase efforts to advertise to the community the availability of PRC and its technical advisor and how to contact them to obtain assistance on site issues. Inclusion of PRC's phone number and email information in fact sheets and on Web sites are a couple of methods that EPA will use to get the word out.

### **Technical Assistance Support Contract (TASC)**

**Description:** TASC is intended to provide independent and credible technical assistance to communities affected by hazardous waste contamination. Assistance is provided through review and interpretation of technical documents and other materials. It provides assistance to communities through a national contract that EPA regional offices tap into on specific tasks identified by community members. EPA headquarters reviews the requests and, if feasible, procures technical services through a national pool of pre-placed subject matter experts.

**Goal:** Empower communities with an independent understanding of the underlying technical issues related to the removal project so that they may participate substantively in the decision-making process. Engagement in the TASC program also assists in addressing the community's continuing concerns about the contamination at the Diamond Alkali site. Community concerns and questions with topics such as the confined disposal facility, sediment removal and processing, natural resource/habitat restoration all may be amenable to technical assistance through this contract.

**Method:** Communities are encouraged to work with others in their community to coordinate requests with EPA. Requests are evaluated against a number of criteria to determine if technical assistance can be provided. More information on the TASC program is available at <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/community/tasc/>. Specific requests should be sent to David Kluesner, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, at 212-637-3653 or [kluesner.dave@epa.gov](mailto:kluesner.dave@epa.gov).

### **Toll-free Hotline 1-800-346-5009**

**Description:** EPA has established a toll-free hotline available to the public.

**Goal:** To provide the public with a free, direct method of communication between the community and EPA, particularly for those who do not use the Internet or have access to it.

**Method:** The public can phone the toll-free number (which will be included in all outreach publications, signs, posters, etc) to find out about upcoming meetings, where to get information about the project, and to speak with someone from EPA or leave a voice-mail message.

## Outreach

### Fact Sheets

**Description:** The community wants good summaries that informed laypeople can process and understand. Fact sheets help the public understand highly technical reports, concepts, and information.

**Goal:** Provide information about the Passaic River contaminated sediment removal project in an easy-to-understand format. Fact sheets will be used to periodically (at least on a quarterly basis) update the community on progress being made, who to contact with questions or input, and what to expect in the coming months.

**Method:** Fact sheets will be produced throughout the life of the project to keep the public informed and educated on it and the decision-making process. Fact sheets are provided to the public through Web postings, at public forums, and provided to stakeholder organizations for dissemination to their constituents as appropriate. As needed, the partner agencies will provide translation of fact sheets and project updates into Spanish and/or Portuguese if indicated.

### Field Notifications

**Description:** This type of information consists of advisories, restrictions, and explanatory signs posted to clearly mark for the public any project work areas and access restrictions. These notices will especially apply to commercial and recreational traffic on the river in the vicinity of the Diamond Alkali site in Newark.

**Goal:** These notifications are intended to keep the public informed of project field activities and maintain public safety.

**Method:** All advisories, signs, and restrictions to access or project work areas will be clearly posted and may be translated into languages other than English should that need arise. Health and Safety Plans will also be used to inform and maintain a safe environment for both the public and project workers.

### Information Repositories

**Description:** **Information repositories** are located in public places where site-related and supporting documents are available for public review. Information repositories for the removal project are located at the EPA Records Center in Edison, NJ and XXXX (Newark???) See Appendix 9 for details.

**Goal:** Provide accessible public locations at which residents can read and copy official documents.

**Method:** EPA will maintain the information repositories, adding documents and information as they become available.

### Listserv Notices

**Description:** EPA has a subscriber list of more than 400 individuals, organizations, and elected officials who may have an interest in the project. Additional subscribers will be solicited from community members interested in receiving information about the project through email notifications.

**Goal:** Keep contact information current and expand community and stakeholder access to project information to the widest audience. Issue routine (monthly/weekly) notices updating the community on removal project progress, as appropriate.

**Method:** Direct solicitation via fact sheets, coordination with elected officials and community organizations using constituent mailing lists, sign-in sheets from public meetings and availability sessions, and by contacting the memberships of local organizations asking them to have their members sign up. EPA will maintain the subscriber list and use it to inform subscribers of project announcements, media events, new project reports available on-line, river notifications, upcoming meetings and to share news articles about the project. Community members who would like to subscribe should notify the Public Affairs representatives for EPA listed in Appendix 3 this plan or visit [www.oupassaic.org](http://www.oupassaic.org) and subscribe by following the instructions.

### Maps and Visual Aids

**Description:** Maps and visual aids help people understand the geography of the site and locations of activities and resources, especially in relation to where they live, work, and attend school.

**Goal:** To communicate complex issues simply and effectively. Use maps and visual aids at public meetings/sessions and site tours to assist in communicating information regarding project work areas, processes, technologies related to the removal of contaminated sediment.

**Method:** Inclusion of maps, photographs, and other visual aids in documents and fact sheets, at public sessions, and on the website.

### Media Notification/Media Events

**Description:** The media is an important source of project information to the community. EPA will provide updates and information to local newspapers, radio, and television outlets and host specific media events in the project area, as appropriate.

**Goal:** To reach a large audience quickly and reinforce important messages and information related to the project.

**Method:** EPA will coordinate with key media outlets, issue press releases and host events to reach the optimum audience, make certain that the entire project areas are covered by those outlets, and that the information presented is concise and understandable.

**Public Notices**

**Description:** Widely distributed announcements of public comment periods, public meetings, and major project milestones.

**Goal:** Communicate an important announcement to as many people as possible.

**Method:** Public notices will be used to announce public comment periods and public meetings using a wide variety of places and methods. Notices may be issued through listserv, project Web sites, press releases, and newspaper display ads. EPA will also reach out to local community groups and key stakeholder organizations to request their assistance in getting out the word.

**Public Service Announcements (PSAs)**

**Description:** Radio PSAs will be used to announce major project activities such as the start of contaminated sediment removal and processing operations. Local public access television is also a medium that will be used as appropriate.

**Goal:** To distribute project information to a broad audience, including non-English speakers, as necessary.

**Method:** EPA may produce PSAs, and working with appropriate local media, ensure that the announcements are delivered to as wide an audience as possible. PSAs will incorporate a reminder message, where feasible and appropriate, regarding fish/shellfish advisories in effect for the Newark Bay and Lower Passaic River study areas.

**Project Site Visits/Tours**

**Description:** Small groups can be given guided tours to view project activities (such as when excavation and processing work commences) when such tours are appropriate, feasible, and safe.

**Goal:** Site visits and demonstrations provide the public with a good, working understanding of project work and conditions.

**Method:** EPA will conduct tours within the project areas to explain field activities and why they are important to the project. There may be activity or location-specific circumstances, however, where EPA may have to limit activities or areas visited, due to health and safety requirements.



**Project Web sites:**

[www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/npl/diamondalkali](http://www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/npl/diamondalkali) and [www.ourpassaic.org](http://www.ourpassaic.org)

**Description:** Internet access to technical reports and updates on the contaminated sediment removal project will be available on EPA's Diamond Alkali Web site at [www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/npl/diamondalkali](http://www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/npl/diamondalkali) and by linking to it from [www.ourpassaic.org](http://www.ourpassaic.org). Information on the broader cleanup and restoration efforts on the lower Passaic is available at [www.ourpassaic.org](http://www.ourpassaic.org) and on the Newark Bay Study being performed by Tierra under EPA's oversight at [www.ournewarkbay.org](http://www.ournewarkbay.org).

**Goal:** The [www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/npl/diamondalkali](http://www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/npl/diamondalkali) Web site provides key resources for accessing both general and specific information about the projects.

**Method:** EPA will post project updates, notices, and technical documents in a timely manner as practicable. Notice of all public meetings and forums and announcements related to the project will be posted immediately. The Web site will be updated and enhanced regularly. EPA will periodically solicit input from the public at **public sessions** and workgroup meetings on how to make the Web site more interesting and useful.

**School/Educational Outreach**

**Description:** EPA will provide project information to local schools and academic institutions and will work with existing educational programs to "piggyback" project information and identify additional opportunities for environmental education.

**Goal:** Educational outreach helps bring project awareness to new audiences and builds bridges between the agencies and various constituencies within the community. Engaging students and teachers will assist in addressing a number of community concerns such as sharing important information about fish and shellfish advisories with populations of concern, raising awareness of environmental justice issues, and encouraging environmental stewardship.

**Method:** Educators and students can request a visit to their school by EPA. Agency staff will also maintain an open line of communication with groups that provide environmental education to local schools, such as Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners, and partner with them when appropriate.

**Speakers' Bureau**

**Description:** A speakers' bureau will provide the public with a roster of experienced professionals from the EPA, consultants and potentially responsible parties who will make themselves available as speakers.

**Goal:** To provide another avenue of information about the projects to the public by having EPA speak and/or give presentations to audiences outside the venue of the public meeting or public forum.

**Method:** EPA will identify professionals fluent in the various aspects of the removal project, create a roster of speakers from this list, and make them available by request, to business groups, civic organizations, schools, and municipalities, among others, who want to know more about the work that is being performed and how it affects them and their community.

### **Video Production**

**Description:** EPA will consider producing videos regarding the project, especially during sediment excavation work.

**Goal:** Educational videos provide the community with an excellent audio-visual tool to aid their understanding of the project, especially with regard to technical and scientific issues. Videos can explain more complex issues using a variety of effects including computer generated animation to provide information that is easily understood and digested by a broad audience comfortable with the medium.

**Method:** Educational videos can be used at public forums and meetings, as well as be distributed to schools, universities, and civic organizations to communicate a broad picture of the project and the individual issues contained within it. Videos can also be made available at public libraries and distributed to the media.

## **Involvement and Input Integrated with Outreach**

### **Community Advisory Group (CAG)**

**Description:** A CAG is made up of representatives of diverse community interests who serve as liaisons for their communities and constituents. A CAG can assist EPA in making better decisions on how to clean up a site. It offers a unique opportunity to hear – and seriously consider – community preferences for site cleanup to keep the community informed about plans and decisions throughout the cleanup.

Whether, and when, to form a CAG is the community's decision. EPA will periodically gauge the community's interest level in forming a CAG for this project. Should the community express a high level of interest and choose to form one; EPA will provide assistance in forming and maintaining the CAG.

There are a number of factors that go into consideration of CAG formation (e.g. level of interest, presence of many competing interests, time period the CAG would be in existence, and whether any existing broad-based group might function as a CAG). Currently, non-agency stakeholder groups representing a wide variety of community and project-related interests attend regular meetings of the Lower Passaic Watershed Alliance and the Lower Passaic River/Newark Bay Project Delivery Team (PDT) held by EPA and its partner agencies. The Lower Passaic Watershed Alliance meets regularly in the project areas to discuss watershed issues, as well as issues pertaining to the Passaic River. The PDT meets on a regular basis and is made up of partner agency representatives. The meetings are open to the public.

**Goal:** Provide a public forum for community members to present and discuss their needs and concerns related to the decision-making process. This tool will also provide the community with an arena to raise issues already voiced as key concerns. These concerns include land use and redevelopment and coordination with local municipalities and officials.

**Method:** EPA will initially utilize regular group meetings, such as those of the Lower Passaic Watershed Alliance and the Lower Passaic/Newark Bay PDT meetings to further interaction between the agencies and the public by announcing meetings and forums via project Web sites and emails. If a CAG is formed, EPA will assist the CAG, if requested, with administrative support on issues relevant to cleanup and restoration activities.

### Community Events

**Description:** EPA may attend or provide materials for community events such as fairs, festivals, boating regattas and races, and cultural festivities to distribute information and answer questions.

**Goal:** Build and maintain good relationships with residents. These events also allow EPA to understand the variety of cultures that populate the project areas. Community events also serve to enhance awareness about environmental justice issues and allow the partner agencies to interact with populations of concern.

**Method:** EPA will supply, staff, and provide information at a booth or table at appropriate events.

### Coordination with Local Government and Other Agencies

**Description:** EPA will coordinate with local government and other state and federal agencies to keep them informed of project activities and obtain feedback on their concerns. Communication with these representatives will continue through the life of the project.

**Goal:** To ensure that local government officials and other state and federal agencies are kept informed of project activities and issues that may impact their constituencies. Ongoing coordination with local governments and other agencies will address communities' concerns regarding green spaces, land use, restoration, and redevelopment issues that may be associated with the project.

**Method:** EPA will keep an open line of communication with local officials and agency staff via meetings and regular dialogue.

## Email

**Description:** Electronic mail can be used to contact agency representatives for information or to ask questions and receive answers about the projects.

**Goal:** This provides another method to assist the public in providing input or requesting information.

**Method:** Email addresses and links are provided on the project Web sites and at public meetings and forums and on fact sheets.

## Environmental Justice Activities

**Description:** Environmental justice activities encourage participation from communities that may have been disproportionately impacted by polluting facilities. This is especially important because members of low income and non-English speaking communities in and around the project areas continue to catch and eat fish and shellfish from the Lower Passaic River and Newark Bay.

**Goal:** To raise awareness of the dangers of eating locally caught fish, explore the issue of development and green spaces, and to bring populations of varying ethnic, racial, and economic backgrounds into the public process.

**Method:** By studying the demographics presented in the Community Profile, EPA will ascertain ways to reach low-income and minority populations. Examples include printing public notices and fact sheets in languages other than English, working with agencies and community organizations that serve these populations, and enlisting their help at public forums and meetings. EPA will network with cultural, faith-based, and social organizations to act as a conduit of information from the project to the populations of concern and to host agency personnel at local events.

## Public Availability Sessions and Forums

**Description:** Public availability sessions and forums are informal sessions open to the general public that may feature: posters, displays, presentations, question-and-answer sessions, and interaction between agency staff and the public. No court reporters or meeting transcripts are required, although meeting summaries may be made

available to the public via newsletters and progress reports. Because of the high level of public interest in the Passaic River, EPA will go beyond minimum requirements by holding public availability sessions and forums on key project decisions or issues.

**Goal:** To create an atmosphere of education, inquiry, and dialogue between the community and agency representatives in a comfortable setting that can provide public feedback to the partner agencies and may reveal issues of public confusion or misunderstanding.

**Method:** The sessions will be conducted as needed and will be held at convenient locations and times. Whenever possible, public notice will be given at least two weeks before scheduled public availability sessions. These notices will be posted on [www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/npl/diamondalkali](http://www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/npl/diamondalkali) and may also be featured in local print, radio, television, and Internet media.

### Public Meetings

**Description:** Public meetings are structured, formal meetings, often required by law, that are open to the general public, featuring a presentation and interaction with the public. Public meetings may feature the use of a court reporter and the issuance of meeting transcripts.

**Goal:** To provide personal contact with agency representatives, update the community on site developments and address community concerns, ideas, questions, and comments.

**Method:** EPA will schedule, prepare for, and attend all announced meetings. Whenever possible, public notice will be given at least two weeks before scheduled public meetings.

### Stakeholder Group Interaction

**Description:** EPA will coordinate with and upon request, attend meetings of stakeholder groups.

**Goal:** This interaction helps ensure that members of these organizations receive the information that they need and that the partner agencies receive their input and understand their concerns. Interaction with stakeholder groups builds bridges of communication across various constituencies and can extend the outreach capabilities of the partner agencies.

**Method:** EPA will regularly coordinate with and upon request, attend meetings of stakeholder groups, based on agency availability.

**Workshops/Seminars/Symposia**

**Description:** Workshops, seminars, and symposia are classroom, lecture-hall, and round-table venues that can be used to bring technical information to a wide audience ranging from academia to the general public.

**Goal:** These formats can be used to educate groups of people on specific topics or address issues in the CIP.

**Method:** EPA will conduct workshops on targeted topics if there is sufficient public interest in that subject and will participate in symposia hosted by local academic institutions (i.e., Passaic River Institute at Montclair State University) as appropriate.



## Appendix 1 – Abbreviations and Acronyms

AOC	Administrative Order on Consent
CAG	Community Advisory Group
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) of 1986
CIP	Community Involvement Plan
DDT	Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane
EE/CA	Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis
EPA	(US) Environmental Protection Agency
FS	Feasibility Study
FFS	Focused Feasibility Study
NCP	National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan
NJDEP	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NPL	National Priorities List
PAH	Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons
PCB	Polychlorinated Biphenyl
PDT	Project Delivery Team
PRP	Potentially Responsible Party

PSA	Public Service Announcement
RI/FS	Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
TAG	Technical Assistance Grant
TASC	Technical Assistance Support Contract
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers



## Appendix 2 – Glossary

**Action Memo:** Describes the selected removal cleanup plan and responds to public comments.

**Administrative Order on Consent:** A legal agreement signed by EPA and an individual, business, or other entity through which the entity agrees to take an action, refrain from an activity, or pay certain costs. It describes the actions to be taken, applies to civil actions, and can be enforced in court. In limited instances it may be subject to a public comment period.

**Administrative Record:** The body of documents that “forms the basis” for the selection of a particular response at a site. For example, the Administrative Record for removal action selection includes all documents that were “considered or relied upon” to select the removal through the Action Memo.

**Advisory:** State-generated health warning regarding the consumption of contaminated animals (*e.g.*, fish, waterfowl). These advisories include advice on how to reduce exposures to chemical contaminants in fish and game by avoiding or reducing consumption and by the use of filleting/trimming and cooking techniques to further reduce contaminant levels. NJDEP issues the fish consumption advisories in NJ.

**Cleanup:** Actions taken to deal with a release or threat of release of a hazardous substance that could affect humans and/or the environment. The term “cleanup” is sometimes used interchangeably with the terms “remedial action,” “remediation,” “removal action,” “response action,” or “corrective action.”

**Community:** An interacting population of various types of individuals (or species) in a common location; a neighborhood or specific area where people live.

**Community Advisory Group (CAG):** A committee, task force, or board made up of residents affected by a Superfund or other hazardous waste site. A CAG provides a way for representatives of diverse community interests to present and discuss their needs and concerns related to the site and the site cleanup process. CAGs are a community initiative and responsibility. They function independently of EPA and the other partner agencies.

**Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA):** Commonly known as Superfund, CERCLA is intended to protect human health and the environment by investigating and cleaning up abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. Under the program, EPA either can pay for a site cleanup when parties responsible for the contamination cannot be located or are unwilling or

unable to perform the work, or take legal action to force parties responsible for site contamination to clean up the site or repay the federal government for the cleanup cost.

**DDT:** Dichloro-Diphenyl-Trichloroethane. A chlorinated hydrocarbon insecticide. It has a half-life of 15 years and can collect in fatty tissues of certain animals. EPA banned registration and interstate sale of DDT for virtually all but emergency uses in the United States in 1972 because of its persistence in the environment and accumulation in the food chain.

**Dioxins:** Refers to a group of chemical compounds that share certain chemical structures and biological characteristics and are known chemically as dibenzo-*p*-dioxins. Several hundred of these compounds exist. Sometimes the term dioxin is used to refer to the most studied and the most toxic dioxins, 2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzo-*p*-dioxin (2,3,7,8-TCDD). Concern about dioxins arises from their potential toxicity as contaminants in commercial products. EPA has classified dioxins as probable human carcinogens.

**Environmental Justice:** The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, culture, education, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. Implies that no population of people should be forced to shoulder a disproportionate share of negative environmental impacts of pollution or environmental hazard due to a lack of political or economic strength levels.

**Feasibility Study (FS):** Evaluation of alternatives for cleanup, including overall protection of human health and the environment, ability to be implemented, and cost effectiveness, among others.

**Floodplain:** Low-lying lands near rivers that are submerged when the river overflows its banks.

**Habitat:** A place where a plant or animal species naturally exists

**Hazardous Substance:** (1) Any material that poses a threat to human health and/or the environment. Typical hazardous substances are toxic, corrosive, ignitable, explosive or chemically reactive. (2) Any substance designated by EPA to be reported if a designated quantity of the substance is spilled into the waters of the United States or is otherwise released into the environment.

**Heavy Metals:** Metallic elements with high atomic weights; (*e.g.*, mercury, chromium, cadmium, arsenic, and lead); can damage living things at low concentrations and tend to accumulate in the food chain.

**Information Repository:** A file containing current information, technical reports, and reference documents regarding a site. The information repository usually is located in a public building convenient for local residents such as a public school, town hall, or library. See Appendix 9 for locations.

**Mercury:** Heavy metal that can accumulate in the environment and is highly toxic if breathed or swallowed.

**National Priorities List (NPL):** EPA's list of serious uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites identified for possible long-term cleanup under Superfund. The list is based primarily on the score a site receives from the Hazard Ranking System.

**Natural Resources:** Land, fish, wildlife, air, water, groundwater, drinking water supplies, and other such resources belonging to, managed by, or controlled by the United States, a state or local government, any foreign government, any Indian tribe, or any member of an Indian tribe.

**Natural Resource Trustee:** CERCLA and the Oil Pollution Act (OPA) authorize the United States, states, and Indian Tribes to act on behalf of the public as Natural Resource Trustees for natural resources under their respective trusteeship. Injuries to natural resources may occur at sites as a result of releases of hazardous substances or oil. Natural Resource Trustees use Natural Resource Damage Assessments to assess injury to natural resources held in the public trust.

**Pesticide:** Substances or mixture thereof intended for preventing, destroying, repelling or mitigating any pest. Also, any substance or mixture for use as a plant regulator, defoliant or desiccant.

**Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs):** A group of toxic, persistent chemicals used in electrical transformers and capacitors for insulating purposes, and in gas pipeline systems as lubricant. The sale and new use of these chemicals, also known as PCBs, were banned by law in 1979.

**Potentially Responsible Party (PRP):** An individual, company, or other entity (*i.e.*, owners, operators, transporters, or generators of hazardous waste) potentially responsible for, or contributing to, the contamination problems at a Superfund site. When possible, EPA requires a PRP, through administrative and legal actions, to clean up hazardous waste sites that it has contaminated.

**Proposed Plan:** A plan for a site cleanup that is available to the public for comment.

**Public Forum:** Informal public sessions that are characterized by a presentation, question-and-answer session, and some times with posters/displays. This format allows members of the public to participate in both large and small group settings. Public forums do not require the use of court reporters and transcripts, although meeting summaries may be issued through newsletters and progress reports.

**Record of Decision (ROD):** A decision document through which a cleanup is selected.

**Removal Action:** The actual construction or implementation phase that follows the removal design. Also referred to as site clean-up.

**Removal Design:** The phase that follows the engineering evaluation/cost analysis (EE/CA) and the Action Memo and includes development of engineering drawings and specifications for a site cleanup.

**Remedial Investigation (RI):** An in-depth study designed to gather data needed to determine the nature and extent of contamination at a Superfund site, identify human health and ecological risks, and establish preliminary site cleanup criteria. The remedial investigation is usually concurrent with the feasibility study. Together they are usually referred to as the “RI/FS.”

**Remediation:** Cleanup or other methods used to remove or contain a toxic spill or hazardous materials from a Superfund site.

**Risk Assessment:** Provides a mechanism for evaluating the current and future human health and ecological risks from exposure to contaminants. The assessments evaluate contaminants of potential concern, their toxicity, and routes of exposure, and characterize the risks.

**Stakeholder:** People, interest groups, and other organizations or institutions that live in the project areas or closely identify with the issues associated with the project.

**Superfund:** The program operated under the legislative authority of CERCLA that funds, oversees, and carries out EPA solid waste emergency and long-term cleanup activities. These activities include establishing the National Priorities List, investigating sites for inclusion on the list, determining their priority for evaluation, and conducting and/or supervising a remedial investigation/feasibility study, cleanup, and other remedial actions.

**Technical Assistance Grant (TAG):** A TAG provides money for activities that help communities participate in decision-making at eligible Superfund sites. An initial grant up to \$50,000 is available for any Superfund site that is on the EPA’s NPL or proposed for listing on the NPL and where a response action has begun. An additional \$50,000 may be provided by EPA at complex sites if certain criteria are met.

**Technical Assistance Support Contract (TASC):** TASC is a national EPA contract vehicle that is potentially available to the public to better understand the hazardous contamination issues in or near their communities by providing free, independent, non-advocate, and technical assistance about contaminated sites. TASC services are provided through EPA’s regional offices which tap into experts who provide site-specific support on tasks identified by the community.

**Wetlands:** Those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions (e.g., swamps, bogs, fens, marshes, and estuaries).

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#### Rep. Bill Pascrell

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## Appendix 5 – Elected Officials: State

### NJ STATE SENATE

#### District 20:

#### Sen. Raymond J. Lesniak

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#### District 28:

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#### District 29:

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#### District 31:

#### Sen. Sandra B. Cunningham

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#### District 32:

#### Sen. Nicholas J. Sacco

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North Bergen, NJ 07047  
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#### District 33:

#### Sen. Brian P. Stack

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### NJ STATE ASSEMBLY

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## Appendix 6 – Local Officials

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**Harrison**

Raymond McDonough, Mayor  
Town of Harrison  
Town Hall  
318 Harrison Avenue



Harrison, NJ 07029  
Phone: (973) 268-2425  
Fax: (201) 482-2101

Health Officer:  
Harrison Health Dept  
Karen L. Comer, M.S., C.H.E.S.,  
318 Harrison Avenue  
Harrison, NJ 07029-1752  
Phone: (973) 268-2441  
Fax: (973) 482-2924  
[kcomer@townofharrison.com](mailto:kcomer@townofharrison.com)

**Jersey City**  
Jerramiah Healy, Mayor  
City of Jersey City  
City Hall  
280 Grove St.  
Jersey City, NJ 07302  
Phone: (201) 547-5200  
Fax: (201) 547-5442

**Kearny**  
Alberto G. Santos, Mayor  
Town of Kearny  
Town Hall  
402 Kearny Ave.  
Kearny, NJ 07032  
Phone: (201) 955-7979

Health Officer:  
Kearny Dept of Health  
John P. Sarnas, M.A.  
645 Kearny Avenue  
Kearny, NJ 07032-2998  
Phone: (201) 997-0600  
Fax: (201) 997-9703  
[jsarnas@aol.com](mailto:jsarnas@aol.com)



**Newark**

Cory Booker, Mayor  
City of Newark  
200 City Hall  
Newark, NJ  
Phone: (973) 733-6400  
Fax: (973) 733-5325

**Health Officer:**

Newark Dept of Health & Human Svcs  
Marsha McGowan, M.P.H., M.A., Health Officer  
110 William Street  
Newark, NJ 07102-1316  
Phone: (973) 733-7592  
Fax: (973) 733-5614  
[mcgowanm@ci.newark.nj.us](mailto:mcgowanm@ci.newark.nj.us)

Augusto Amador  
East Ward Council Member  
Newark Municipal Council  
920 Broad Street  
Newark, NJ 07102  
Phone: (973) 733-3844



## Appendix 7 – Stakeholder Groups

### **Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissioners (ANJEC)**

Abby Fair  
PO Box 157  
Mendham, NJ 07945  
Phone: (973) 539-7547  
Email: [afair@anjec.org](mailto:afair@anjec.org)

### **Bloomfield Third Riverbank Association**

Mary Shaughnessy  
41 Lowell Terrace  
Bloomfield, NJ 07003  
Phone: (973)338-5127  
Email: [ellanora@comcast.net](mailto:ellanora@comcast.net)

### **Clean Ocean Action**

Cindy Zipf, Executive Director  
18 Hartshorne Dr.  
P.O. BOX 509  
Sandy Hook, NJ 07732  
Phone: (732) 872-0111

### **Cooperating Parties Group – Lower Passaic River Restoration Project**

De Maximis, Inc.  
Bill Potter  
186 Center Street, Suite 290  
Clinton, NJ 08809  
Phone: (908) 735-9315  
Fax: (908) 735-2132

William H. Hyatt, Jr., Esquire  
Kirkpatrick & Lockhart, LLP  
One Newark Center  
Tenth Floor  
Newark, NJ 07102

Phone: (973) 848-4000  
Fax: (973) 848-4001

Jaffe Communications, Inc.  
Jonathan Jaffe  
2 North Union Ave.  
Suite 2B  
Cranford, NJ 07016  
Phone: (908) 276-6500  
Fax: (908) 292-1177

**Environmental Defense Fund**

Jim Tripp  
New York Headquarters  
257 Park Avenue South  
New York, NY 10010  
Phone: (212) 505-2100  
Fax: (212) 505-2375

**Essex County Environmental Center**

Tara M Casella  
Environmental Coordinator  
621-B Eagle Rock Avenue  
Roseland, NJ 07068  
Phone: (973) 228-8776  
Email: [tcasella@parks.essexcountynj.org](mailto:tcasella@parks.essexcountynj.org)

**Future City**

Michele McBean, Executive Director  
1139 East Jersey St.  
Elizabeth, NJ 07201  
Phone: (908) 659-0688  
Email: [fcinj@optonline.net](mailto:fcinj@optonline.net)

**Green Faith**

Rev. Fletcher Harper  
46 Bayard Street, Suite 401  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901  
Phone: (732) 565-7740  
Fax: (732) 565-7790  
Email: [Info@greenfaith.org](mailto:Info@greenfaith.org)  
[revfharper@greenfaith.org](mailto:revfharper@greenfaith.org)



**Greater Newark Conservancy**

Steve Weisner  
303-9 Washington St.  
Newark, NJ 07102  
Phone: (973) 642-4646

**Hackensack Riverkeeper**

Bill Sheehan  
231 Main St.  
Hackensack, NJ 07601  
Phone: (201) 968-0808

**Hudson River Foundation**

Dennis Suszkowski, Jim Lodge  
17 Battery Pl.  
NY, NY 10004

**Immigration & American Citizenship Organization (IACO)**

Sondra Barguero, Anita Ghanooni  
Communications Coordinator  
647 Main Ave.  
Suite 205  
Passaic, NJ 07024  
Phone: (973) 472-4648  
Email: [IACOimmigration@msn.com](mailto:IACOimmigration@msn.com)

**Ironbound Community Corporation (ICC)**

Carol Johnston  
179 Van Buren St.  
Newark, NJ 07105  
Phone: (973) 589-3353  
Email: [cjohnston@ironboundcc.org](mailto:cjohnston@ironboundcc.org)

**Ironbound Super Neighborhood Council**

Leonard Thomas  
Newark, NJ  
Phone: (973) 589-7805  
Email: [Ironbound.sncc.corrs.sec@gmail.com](mailto:Ironbound.sncc.corrs.sec@gmail.com)



**Lower Passaic Watershed Alliance**

Thomas A. Pietrykoski  
Assistant Scientist  
Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners  
600 Wilson Avenue  
Newark, NJ 07105  
Phone: (973) 817-5735  
Fax: (973) 817-5709  
Email: [TPietrykoski@PVSC.COM](mailto:TPietrykoski@PVSC.COM)

**Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)**

Larry Levine  
Attorney, NY/NJ Harbor/ Bight Project  
40 W. 20th Street  
New York, NY 10011  
Phone: (212) 727-4548  
Fax: (212) 727-1773  
[llevine@nrdc.org](mailto:llevine@nrdc.org)

**Nereid Boat Club**

PO Box 1678  
350 Riverside Ave.  
Rutherford, NJ 07070  
Phone: (201) 438-3995  
Email: [nereidsec@hotmail.com](mailto:nereidsec@hotmail.com)

**New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT)**

Jay N. Meegoda, Ph.D., P.E.  
Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering  
Newark, NJ 07102  
Phone: (973) 596-2464  
Fax: (973) 596-5790

**NY/NJ Baykeeper**

Debbie Mans, Executive Director  
52 Front St.  
Keyport, NJ 07735  
Phone: (732) 888-9870  
Fax: (732) 888-9873  
Email: [debbie@nynjbaykeeper.org](mailto:debbie@nynjbaykeeper.org)



**Passaic River Boat Club**

Harvey Morginstin, P.E.  
56 Hyde Road  
Bloomfield, NJ  
Phone: (973) 338-6408  
Email: [harvey.morginstin@excite.com](mailto:harvey.morginstin@excite.com)

**Passaic River Coalition**

Ella Filippone, Executive Director  
94 Mt. Bethel Rd.  
Warren, NJ 07059  
Phone: (908) 222-0315  
Fax: (908) 222-0357  
Email: [prcwater@aol.com](mailto:prcwater@aol.com)

Anne Kruger, Ph.D.

Technical Advisor  
Phone: (908) 222-0315  
Email: [AKruger@verizon.net](mailto:AKruger@verizon.net)

**Passaic River Institute (PRI) – Montclair State University**

Kirk Barrett, Director  
Montclair State University  
Montclair, NJ  
Phone: (973) 655-7117  
Fax: (973) 655-4390  
Email: [kirk.barrett@montclair.edu](mailto:kirk.barrett@montclair.edu)

**Passaic River Rowing Association**

Jeff Lahm, President  
P.O. Box 440  
Lyndhurst, NJ 07071-0440  
Email: [prra.row3@verizon.net](mailto:prra.row3@verizon.net)



**Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners (PVSC)**

Robert DeVita, River Restoration Program Manager  
600 Wilson Avenue  
Newark, NJ 07105  
Phone: (973) 466-2710  
Fax: (973) 344-7114

Sheldon Lipke, Superintendent of Plant Operations

Phone: (973) 817-5782  
Fax: (973) 817-5709

**Port Authority of NY & NJ**

Rosalie Siegel  
225 Park Avenue South  
New York, NY 10003  
Phone: (212) 435-4405  
Email: [rsiegel@panynj.gov](mailto:rsiegel@panynj.gov)

**Rutgers University**

Bob Chant  
71 Dudley Road  
Room 111C  
Marine Sciences Building  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901  
Phone: (732) 932-7120

**Stevens Institute of Technology**

Dr. K. Nadia Dimou  
Research Assistant Professor Hoboken, NJ 07030  
Phone: (201) 216-8551



**Appendix 8 – Potential Meeting Locations**

**Newark, NJ**

Phone: (973) 639-8400

Fax: (973) 639-1953

**Barringer High School**

90 Parker St.  
Newark, NJ 07104  
Phone: (973) 268-5125

**Society Hill Community Center I**

1 Cornerstone Lane  
Newark, NJ 07103  
Phone: (973) 622-0256

**East Newark Public**

501-11 N. Third St.  
E. Newark, NJ 07029  
Phone: (201) 481-6800

**St. Lucy's Community Center**

106 South St.  
Newark, NJ 07107  
Phone: (973) 483-9003

**East Side High School**

238 Van Buren St.  
Newark, NJ 07105-2512  
Phone: (973) 465-4900

**West Side Community Center**

West Side Park and 13<sup>th</sup>  
Newark, NJ 07102  
Phone: (973) 642-2015

**Elizabeth Ave. Community Center**

54 Elizabeth Ave.  
Newark, NJ 07108  
Phone: (973) 242-0531

**Hawkins Street Elementary School**

8 Hawkins Street  
Newark, NJ 07105  
Phone: (973) 465-4920

**Ironbound Community Center**

179 Van Buren St.  
Newark, NJ 07105  
Phone: (973) 465-0555

**North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA)**

One Newark Center  
17th floor  
Newark, NJ 07102



## Appendix 9 – Information Repositories

### **U.S. EPA Region 2 Superfund Records Center**

Building 205

2890 Woodbridge Avenue

Edison, New Jersey 08837-3679

Hours: Mon - Fri.: 9AM - 5PM

Phone: (732) 906-6980

### **Newark Public Library**

NJ Reference Section

5 Washington Street

Newark, NJ 07101

Hours: Mon., Fri., Sat.: 9AM - 5:30PM

Tues., Wed., Thurs.:

9AM - 8:30 PM

Phone: (201) 733-7775

## Appendix 10– Media List

### NEWSPAPERS

**Associated Press** (New Jersey Bureau)  
50 Park Place  
Suite 800  
Newark , NJ 07102  
Phone: (973) 642-0151  
Fax: (973) 643-2526

**The (Bergen) Record**  
150 River Street  
Hackensack, NJ 07601  
Phone: (201) 646-4100  
Fax: (201) 646-4135

**Herald-News**  
1 Garrett Mountain Plaza  
West Paterson, NJ 07424  
Phone: (973) 569-7000  
Fax: (973) 569-7129

**Jersey Journal**  
30 Journal Square  
Jersey City, NJ 07306  
Phone: (201) 653-1000

**La Guia Del Immigrante** (a monthly  
Spanish-language magazine)  
647 Main Avenue, Suite 205  
P.O. Box 1541  
Passaic, N.J. 07055  
Phone: (973) 472-4648  
Fax: (973) 472-4889

**Leader Newspaper**  
251 Ridge Road  
Lyndhurst, NJ 07071  
Phone: (201) 438-8700  
Fax: (201) 438-9022

**The Extra Newspaper** (weekly paper  
with Spanish focus)

EXTRA Communications  
76 Prospect Street  
Newark, NJ 07105  
Phone: (973) 344-1888  
Fax: (973) 344-7575

**South Bergenite**  
33 Lincoln Avenue  
Rutherford, NJ 07070  
Phone: (201) 933-1166  
Fax: (201) 933-5496

**The Star Ledger**  
One Star Ledger Plaza  
Newark, NJ 07102  
Phone: (973) 392-4040  
Fax: (973) 392-5845

### TELEVISION STATIONS

**News 12 New Jersey**  
(Channel 12 News)  
Phone: (732) 346-3270

**WCBS – TV** (NJ Bureau Chief)  
Phone: (201) 319-8638

**WMBC-TV**  
Mountain Broadcasting Corp.  
(Licensed to Newton, NJ)  
99 Clinton Road  
West Caldwell, NJ 07006  
Phone: (973) 852-0300  
Fax: (973) 808-5516

**WNBC News 4**

30 Rockefeller Plaza  
 New York City, NY 10012  
 Phone: (212) 664-4444  
 Tips: (212) 664-2731

**NJN Newark (Public)**

50 Park Place  
 Newark, NJ 07102  
 Phone: (973) 648-3630  
 Fax: (973) 643-4004

NJN Assignment Desk  
 Phone: (609) 633-2927

**WNET-TV (Public)**

One Gateway Center  
 Newark, NJ 07102  
 Phone: (973) 643-3315

**WNJU (Spanish)**

47 Industrial Ave.  
 Teterboro, NJ 07608  
 Phone: (201) 288-5550  
 Fax: (201) 288-0219

**WWOR-TV**

9 Broadcast Plaza  
 Secaucus, NJ 07096  
 Phone: (201) 348-0009  
 Fax: (201) 330-2488

**WXTV (Spanish)**

500 Frank W. Burr Blvd.  
 Teaneck, NJ 0766  
 Phone: (201) 287-4141  
 Fax: (201) 287-9423

**RADIO**

**WABC-AM (770.0)**

2 Penn Plaza  
 New York, NY 10121  
 Phone: (212) 268-5730

**WADO-AM (1280.0) - (Spanish)**

485 Madison Ave.  
 New York, NY 10022  
 Phone: (212) 310-6000  
 Fax: (212) 888-3694

**WBGO (88.3)**

54 Park Place  
 Newark, NJ 07102  
 Phone: (973) 624-8880  
 Fax: (973) 824-8888

**WGHT (1500)**

P.O. Box 316  
 Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442  
 Phone: (973) 839-1500 - Office  
 Phone: (973) 839-2404 - News  
 Fax: (973) 839-2400

**WINS-AM (1010.0)**

888 7<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
 New York, NY 10016  
 Phone: (212) 397--1010  
 Fax: (212) 247-7918



## Appendix 11 – Community Interview Questions

Do you have concerns with or questions about the planned removal of contaminated sediment from the lower Passaic River (i.e., the “removal project”)? If yes, what are they?

Which topics, decisions or issues would you like information or opportunities for input on?

Which of the project reports or plans identified in the attachment do you feel are most critical to either you, or the public in general, to review and comment on?

Who specifically in the community should EPA reach out to as the removal project is planned and implemented?

What are the most effective tools for sharing information and providing input? (e.g., fact sheets, public meetings or sessions, Web site, stakeholder meetings, media interviews, etc.)

Does the community need technical assistance support to understand this project better and/or to effectively provide input to EPA on the project plans and reports? Do you feel that the community is aware of Passaic River Coalition’s Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) and how to seek their assistance?

What source(s) of information would you prefer to get information from? (e.g., EPA, State of New Jersey, Tierra Solutions, media, elected officials, etc.)

How often would you like to get information about the project? (e.g., at regular project team meetings, more frequently than the project team meetings, monthly, quarterly, etc.)

What would be the best location to hold a public meeting or information session with the public to discuss the removal project?

Do you have any other concerns, suggestions or comments about the removal project?

## Appendix 12 – Bibliography

Administrative Order on Consent & Statement of Work (June 23, 2008)

Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis for the Lower Passaic River Phase 1 Removal Action (November 2008)

Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis Work Plan for the Lower Passaic River Phase 1 Removal Action (August 29, 2008)

Guidance for Community Advisory Groups at Superfund Sites; EPA OSWER Directive 9230.0-28; EPA 540-K-96-001; December 1995

Lower Passaic River Restoration Project and Newark bay Study Community Involvement Plan; June 2006

Public Involvement Policy; EPA; May 2003

Proposed Plan for the Lower Passaic River Phase 1 Removal Action (November 2008)

Superfund Community Involvement Toolkit; EPA OSWER 540-K-01-004; September 2002

Superfund Community Involvement Handbook; EPA OSWER; EPA 540-K-01-003; April 2002 Project